

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PC546PR	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/IB2005/000411 ✓	International filing date (day/month/year) 18/02/2005 ✓	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 20/02/2004 ✓
Applicant UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO ✓		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. **Basis of the report**

a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 2

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB2005/000411

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01N15/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 02/103332 A (INFM ISTITUTO NAZIONALE PER LA FISICA DELLA MATERIA; BROGLIOLI, DORIAN) 27 December 2002 (2002-12-27) cited in the application pages 7-15; figure 2 ----- A BROGIOLI DORIANO ET AL: "Heterodyne near-field scattering" APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS. NEW YORK, US, vol. 81, no. 22, 25 November 2002 (2002-11-25), pages 4109-4111, XP012032611 ISSN: 0003-6951 the whole document ----- -/-	1-25
		1-25

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

7 July 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

14/07/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB2005/000411

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 327 217 A (KANAI ET AL) 5 July 1994 (1994-07-05) column 1, lines 39-67 column 4, lines 19-35; figures 3,4 -----	1-25
A	GLOVER A R ET AL: "INTERFEROMETRIC LASER IMAGING FOR DROPLET SIZING: A METHOD FOR DROPLET-SIZE MEASUREMENT IN SPARSE SPRAY SYSTEMS" APPLIED OPTICS, OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA, WASHINGTON, US, vol. 34, no. 36, 20 December 1995 (1995-12-20), pages 8409-8421, XP002937349 ISSN: 0003-6935 section 2 "Description of Technique" -----	1-25

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/IB2005/000411

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 02103332	A	27-12-2002	IT	T020010588 A1		18-12-2002
			EP	1409994 A2		21-04-2004
			WO	02103332 A2		27-12-2002
			JP	2004532989 T		28-10-2004
			US	2004239932 A1		02-12-2004
US 5327217	A	05-07-1994	JP	2264846 A		29-10-1990
			EP	0391682 A2		10-10-1990